



ABBEY ACTION

INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

NOVEMBER 2002

TEL: 01223 517259

OFFICIAL OPENING OF ABBEY MEADOWS SCHOOL

On July 12th this year, our school was officially opened by Mrs Margaret Barker, one of our first ever pupils. She was supported by Mrs Carol Garofalo, our Chair of Governors. When we were planning our opening, the Governors were very keen not to have stuffy, boring speeches by people who didn't know the school or it's children. We wanted a party - and boy did we get one!



After the formal bit, in which the keys to the school were handed over, we swung into fun. There was an exhibition in the hall of East Barnwell over the past 50 years and the whole school was open to visitors. People marvelled at our new facilities and classrooms. They were particularly impressed by our state of the art computer suite. One parent who works at the University said "it's better than we have at work!" Meanwhile, outside, the friends of the school had organised Bouncy Castles, fun activities and stalls. Shane Farr and his team slaved away producing the biggest barbeque known to man. Other activities included a traditional sports day organised by the staff and helped by our friends from Cambridge United and the Reccy Rangers. The raffle was, quite frankly, the biggest and best

I have ever seen. Two delighted families walked away with a bike and a TV. I must add my thanks to all the local firms who were so kind in their donations to the raffle. They are too numerous to mention but may I just urge the community to support them as well as they support the school.

If all this wasn't enough, the evening disco was a sell-out and a huge success despite the rival attraction of Pop in the Park. Eventually, we got away by 10.30 pm and I am sure everyone was as exhausted as I. However, it was everything we wanted it to be - a huge party to celebrate our school.

Abbey Meadows is a very happy, friendly and welcoming school - if you haven't seen us yet, then come on over.

Cliff Knight
Headteacher



A SUNNY WELCOME FOR THE ABBEY WARD OUTING

Over 140 people from the Abbey ward made a very good decision on Saturday 3rd August - they left behind the grey, overcast skies of Cambridge to spend a day at sunny Hunstanton. By the time the four coaches and a Dial-A-Ride bus for disabled residents had passed the colourful lavender fields at Heacham, the skies had cleared.

Bright sun, a warm breeze and a glistening blue sea greeted us as we arrived in time for morning coffee. Some headed straight for the beach, others to the cafes, shops and amusements or for walks along the cliff top and gardens. Others just took in the views from the comfort of a deckchair! The clouds had bubbled up by late afternoon but it remained warm until it was time for the coaches to depart between 5 and 6pm.



The question now is where to go next year? Great Yarmouth is high on the list of destinations but please let us know your ideas. We will also publicise the date and destination of the trip in the spring newsletter to give good

notice to those who like to plan ahead. Unfortunately, this year we did not have enough volunteers from the area to act as reps on all the coaches. I had to look after two coaches somehow! Sorry to those on the Rawlyn Court coach who did not have anyone aboard for the trip. If outings like these are to continue we do need local volunteers to assist - mainly to check off names and ensure everyone is on the coach.

Keith Jordan,
Project Worker for
Abbey Action.



QUEEN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION - EAST BARNWELL STYLE

Despite the wet start to August, the weather stayed fine for the Queen's Jubilee Celebration at Holy Cross Church on Sunday August 11th. About 90 people turned up, including some in costume for the Fancy Dress Competition, to enjoy a variety of activities.

Susan Eady, one of the organisers from the church, wrote:-

"The weather was wonderful; we had a good turn out of people. They enjoyed a bouncy castle, a magician, balloons, they iced biscuits, had their face painted, hair braiding, music, find the duck, treasure hunt, there was a raffle for adults and one for children. One lady brought her cockerel - we had to guess the

weight of him. We had a half-hour service for the Queen - two ladies read the Queen's speeches, one from 1947 and her 2000 millennium speech.

Donations came from some of the small shops in East Barnwell and Mc Donald's.

Colin Alcide from Cambridge United, presented the prizes and gave autographs - all the football fans thought this was great. Abbey Meadows Community Theatre, in costume, opened the celebrations by cutting the ribbon; one gave a speech just like the Queen.

We thank the council very much for their grant. We did so much more than we expected to do."



LOCAL GROUPS FEATURE

There are many groups that meet in the Abbey ward - each edition we like to feature a few. If you want your group mentioned in the next edition please send us an advert or a short article, with a photo if possible, about your activities. What has your group been doing over 2002? Please also remember the FREE publicity available to your group through the community notice boards dotted around the ward. For distribution, send 8-10 posters with details of your group or event to Abbey Action at the East Barnwell Centre.

● **GRANTS - The Tuesday Carpet Bowls club**, which meets at East Barnwell Community Centre, has just received an Abbey Action grant for £150 to fund a coach trip for their annual dinner dance. If your group requires some extra funding to buy a piece of equipment, put on an outing or help fund an event please get in touch with Keith at Abbey Action. There is just a simple one-page form to complete.

● **Abbey Community Theatre**
Abbey Community Theatre (ACT) is a local drama group providing live theatre for the Barnwell area. Rehearsals have just started for next year's Panto - Snow White and Company. The script has been written by one of our members, with plenty of references to the local community and to one or two local celebrities!

The Panto will be performed at Abbey Meadows Community School on Thursday 27th, Friday 28th February and Saturday 1st March 2003. Put the dates in your diaries, as you will not want to miss this exciting performance. The cast includes local people and youngsters with a guest appearance from Cliff Knight and Chris Beddows from Abbey Meadows School. The production is guaranteed to chase away winter blues!

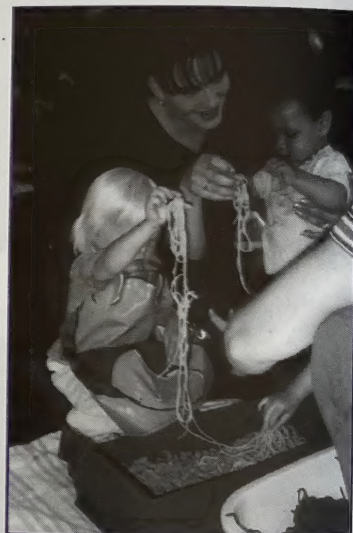
If you would like to join the group or know more about us please join us at 7.30pm on Friday's at Abbey Meadows Community Wing. Or telephone Carol on 01223 529802, Glynis on 01223 570887 or Lynda on 01223 515664.

● **The DEC Youth Bus** - Once a week a converted double-decker bus with lots to do for 11-17 year olds comes to Abbey Ward. Play stations, games, TV, music, a chill-out area, information, IT equipment are on offer. It's

also somewhere warm and dry! Just turn up on Wednesday evenings at the end of Wadloes Road (by the Q8 Fuel Depot) from 6.15pm - 8.15 pm or contact Gareth Smith, Tel: 01223 457802 or Email: thedec@cambridge.gov.uk

CALLING ALL CHILDMINDERS IN THE AREA

Do you work from home and sometimes feeling isolated? Would you like to meet up with other childminders in the area? Are you free on Friday mornings? If the answer to any of these is YES then drop in to East Barnwell Community Centre on Fridays in term time from 9.30 to 11.30am. We have plenty of toys and activities for children plus refreshments. Contact Rebecca on C. 510300 for more information about East Barnwell Childminding Group.



● Whitehill Allotment Society

Dear Readers,
Autumn is here once again and it is time for Whitehill / Peverel Allotment holders to renew their rents for the next 12 months. Rents are £12 a plot and £6 a half-plot plus £1.35 Annual Membership. Associate Membership is also £1.35 - for non-plot holders. This entitles members to use the shop situated at Whitehill Allotments, off Elfleda Road. A good range of fertilizers, composts, seed potatoes and other gardening sundries are available at very reasonable prices.

Anyone contemplating taking on an allotment can present themselves at the shop on any Saturday or Sunday between 10.00-11.00am. Dry autumn days are an ideal time for someone new to get started - removing weeds and dead vegetation and carrying out any cultivation before the soil is too wet and sticky. The winter frosts will break down any clods leaving fine soil, ready for sowing and planting in the spring.
HAPPY GARDENING

● Cambridge Organisation Promoting Disability Awareness (COPDA) -

This group promotes awareness by lobbying local and national government on disability issues, also by lobbying other groups, businesses, etc. as necessary, to assist in the resolution of problems for disabled people. It meets at Abbey Meadows Community Wing, usually the 3rd Thursday of every month (except August) from 11am-1pm.

Contact **Allan Hollands**, Secretary, COPDA,
4 Blackberry Way, Cambridge, CB4 2GZ.

Tel: 01223 420998 or email:

copda_cam@hotmail.com Website: <http://website.lineone.net/~copda.cam>

● Barn Owls Mother and Toddler Group

If you look after young children, why not try this very friendly group that meets on Thursdays between 9.30-11.30am at Barnwell Baptist Church, Howard Road. We have lots of toys for the children to play with, Craft activities, Singing plus Tea, Coffee, Juice and Biscuits. The cost is £1.00 per family.

For any more information contact **Sharon** on 721766, or 513184.

● Citrus Aerobics

Lisa Ucan is starting to branch out from her regular Improvers Aerobics class at East Barnwell Community Centre held on Wednesday nights (7.30-8.30pm). She now runs a Friday night Absolute Beginners class from 6-7pm that is geared for people who have never done aerobics before or perhaps did some a while ago. You can work at your own pace and should see significant improvement in muscle tone, flexibility, co-ordination, body composition and overall fitness by the end of the course.

After the Christmas break classes will start again to shift that Christmas pud! New classes from January include Line Dancing (7.30-8.30pm) on Friday evenings (at East Barnwell CC) and on Sundays from 12th January at Abbey Meadows Community Wing: Golden Oldies 12.00-1.00pm, Orientale 1.30-2.30pm, Adult Ballet Beginners 3.00-4.00pm. Lisa also welcomes suggestions for new dance classes. Those who are interested should contact Lisa on her mobile for a chat Tel: 07813 200513 or 01223 307055. Lisa is a qualified aerobics instructor, first aider and ex-professional dancer, who has first hand experience of helping people adapt to the challenges life can bring.

● CJ's School of Dance

Ballroom & Latin-American dance classes are held on Tuesdays between 7.00-10.00pm at Holy Cross Church, Newmarket Road. Sequence dance classes also take place on Thursdays from 7.30-10.00pm. For adults, but childrens classes are available. Please contact: **Clive and Jenny Hurt** Tel. 357556 or 07816 628747 or email: cjdanceschool@btinternet.com for full details. Website available soon.

Thank You from Sure Start



Sure Start would like to take the opportunity to thank all the parents of young children who helped in the completion of the parent survey over the past few weeks. The results have now been used to draw up the final plan, which was submitted at the end of September.

- Are you a parent / carer of a young child (under 4)?

- Interested in advising on the development of local Sure Start projects?
- Get-togethers will be during school hours, with a crèche, refreshments and fun!

For further details contact me, **Mary Knox**, Sure Start office, East Barnwell Community Centre or tel: 471633 leaving a message and I will call you back.

FOOTBALL AND THE COMMUNITY

Cambridge United's progress in Division Three continues with several home and away wins. The Abbey Stadium was also bursting at the seams for the Worthington Cup match against Sunderland when all tickets were sold out. The new South Stand enabled over 8000 fans to watch the game (shame about the result!). The completed stand was officially opened during the Family Day on October 5th when the U's played Wrexham. As well as the special "Quid a Kid" tickets scheme, there were even better offers for organised parties from schools, youth groups and community groups. For news of future group offers, contact **Graham Eales, PR Manager at the club, Tel: 566500**. Meanwhile, coaches from the club's Football In The Community team are



busy running lunchtime and after schools clubs at many local schools. Coaching sessions for children will be also be taking place at Half Term, including Coldham's Common. Contact **416238** for more details, future courses or if you think your school or club could benefit.

ABBAY PEOPLE GET ONLINE

Shopping, staying in contact with friends, getting health tips, checking train times, booking a holiday, finding out what's on at the cinema, getting info about services in Cambridge - these are just some of the things you can do using the world wide web. And people in Abbey Meadows and East Barnwell have been finding out more about the internet thanks to an initiative by Cambridge Online City. The sorts of things covered in the tutorials include: using a computer, what the internet is, finding the site you

want, finding your way around a site, sending and receiving email and search engines, but it really depends how much you know already and what you want to learn. The free internet tutorials last 45 minutes and are on offer at Newmarket Road Library. If you'd like to know more call the library on 712083 or Louise at Cambridge Online City on 457999. If you already know about the internet, find out more about Cambridge at www.colc.co.uk We're hoping to open a COLC access point with tutorials at East Barnwell Community Centre soon - watch this space.



MEMORIES OF ABBEY

by Caroline Biggs

The local history book collecting vivid memories of East Barnwell's past is taking shape. It is becoming a book that looks both forward as well as back. A Century of Memories is the work of local historian Caroline Biggs - although she prefers to say the community is the author, rather than her. Caroline, has spent 18 months interviewing local people and trawling the archives of the Cambridge Evening News. Her conclusion: "Barnwell was a self-sufficient little village with a richer history than people think."

Admitting that the booklet is still developing, she said her original idea was to bring back a sense of community that Abbey might have lost. "It's fragmented by a major road, and people tend to be a bit territorial about where they live. What they do have is a shared past, and many of them aren't aware of this."

In the forward, Caroline says: "We hope that this book will bring back warm memories of the past and encourage others to record their personal memories to share with future generations of Abbey and East Barnwell residents."

The booklet, a joint venture between the Barnwell and Fen Ditton Local History Society and Community Development, started life as a local history project at the Community Café.

"I found a lot of interest from people of all ages," said Caroline. "What came out is the tremendous community spirit that certainly used to exist,



Priory School Football Team 1953/54 Season

mainly centred around women going regularly to shops. That's the trouble these days, they're fewer shops."

She hopes people will build on the project and that, with more material, another booklet of memories can be produced, creating what she calls an "Abbey archive": Caroline feels there are a lot more memories out there.

Funding for the project has come from Abbey Action and Community Arts. "I think it will have some impact and I have already had some orders," she said.

As a spin off from the project, the younger thoughts of the pupils at Abbey Meadows Primary School have been collected in a booklet called Let Me Tell You About Where I Live, to be produced by the school. "Their thoughts reflect the hopes, dreams and realities of children's lives in the 21st century, and are a joy to read," said Caroline.

Emerald couple look back

The official opening of the East Barnwell Community Centre on 29 September, 1945 heralded romance for Don and Barbara Patman. Don was standing by the gate chatting to a friend when Barbara went past and he whistled his approval. "It's one of those things that I will never forget," says Mrs Patman. Barbara was a member of the youth club and had been helping with the cleaning to get the Centre ready for the official opening by Lady Butler. Don and Barbara got married on 6 September 1947 and have just celebrated 55 years of marriage.

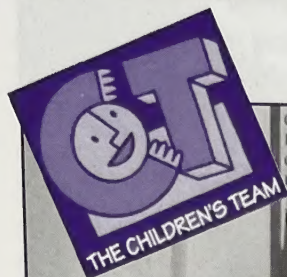
The Centre was popular and well used after the war. As well as a youth-club there were also an over 60s' club, social club and dances. A record player provided the music at the youth club and people brought their own records.



Does any one else have any memories of the early years of the Centre - or a photograph? - please contact Abbey Action if you do.

CT news

by Abbey Reccy Ranger Lara Brettell



Luckily the weather turned out to be nice over the summer holidays and we were able to have some really good reccy's with lots of sports and arts and crafts.

We even managed to have a couple of water fights, a day of wacky races, a big rounders match, with lots of adults joining in, and a giant junk modelling session.

We also organised two trips over the summer, the first was to Thetford forest for a day of mountain biking and den building. The second was a joint Trumpington-Abbey go-karting trip organised with the Trumpington Reccy Ranger to Caxton kartsport. We're hoping to do more joint work with Trumpington in the future.

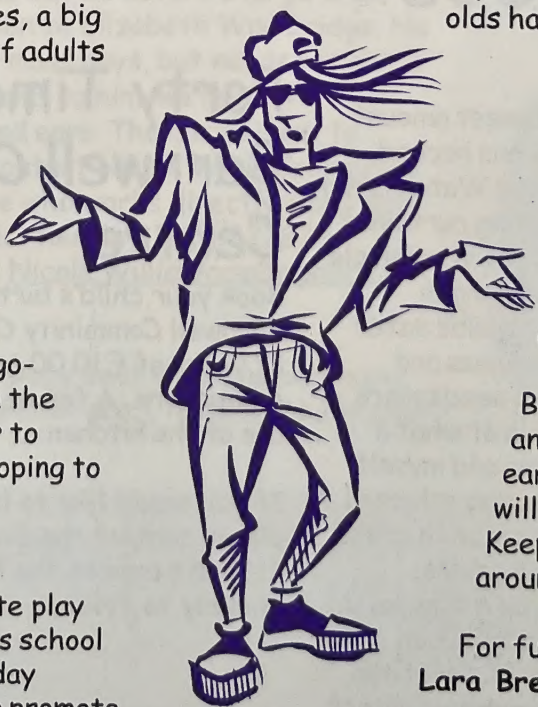
I am continuing to facilitate play sessions at Abbey Meadows school playground every Wednesday lunchtime, playing games to promote

play and teamwork. We are also planning to set up a year six youth club in partnership with Abbey Meadows Community Primary School, which will be starting up in November.

The Abbey crew youth club for 10-15 year olds has started up again and runs between 6.30pm and 8.30pm every Thursday during term time at the East Barnwell Community Centre. Feel free to come along, it only costs 50p a time, you can play pool, table tennis, playstation, do arts and crafts or just listen to music.

Because the weather's changing and it'll be getting darker earlier, times and days of reccy's will be changing around a bit. Keep an eye on the notice boards around the area for what's going on.

For further information please call Lara Brettell on 01223 457 873



Did You Know?

The Prince of Wales visited Whitehill Road during his student days, to see his bed maker, Flo Moore. She came to know him well and he often gave her a brace of pheasants for Christmas as well as a card and even invited her to his investiture and wedding.

In December 1948 an important milestone in the Cambridge post war-housing drive was reached when the Mayor opened the council's 1,000th house at 27, Peverel Road.

Did you know how local roads got their name? Some are named after Priors of the former Barnwell Priory:- Prior Galfrid (1092-1112), Pain Peverel, Laurence de Stansfield 9th Prior (1238-1251), Johans de Thorlye 11th Prior (1254-1266), William Rayson (1517) and Thomas Rawlyn (1523).

The Leper Chapel

just over Barnwell Bridge on Newmarket Road, is the setting for an evening of music by

The St Petersburg Vocal Ensemble

on November 18th.

Orthodox Church Music and Folk

Songs of Russia and

Ukraine will feature in

the programme called 'Russicum'. The music starts at 7.00pm - doors open at 6.30pm and seating will be limited.



NEWSLETTER

Do you know anyone who did not receive an Abbey Action newsletter? Some people at the end of Barnwell Road say they did not get one delivered. We rely on another organisation delivering copies to every household so please tell us if your friends receive one and not you. Contact Keith on tel. 517259 or Abbey Action c/o East Barnwell Community Centre, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, CB5 8RS. Or email abbeyaction1@tiscali.co.uk

FIREWORK EVENINGS

The 29th Cambridge Scout Groups Firework display has already taken place at the Scout HQ in Stansfield Road, which was supported by Abbey Action. We hope everyone has a great time. Don't forget the largest FREE Firework Display in the region takes place on Midsummer Common on Tuesday 5 November. The fun begins at 6.00pm with Thurston's Fair and Q103 live on stage.



Fireworks at 7.30pm with the lighting of the bonfire at about 8.00pm. For further information tel 457521 or go on line - www.koko.com (There are special arrangements, for people with disabilities - please phone to check and book.)

If you are having your own firework display please think about any pets you may have, the neighbours and above all everyone's safety and have a great time!

JOINING TOGETHER

As part of a nationwide move towards unity between the churches, **Meadowlands Methodist and Holy Cross Churches** have unanimously agreed to worship together every Sunday.

Rather than confuse everyone by meeting at different churches on alternate weeks, morning services will *all* be at Meadowlands Methodist Church every Sunday at 10.30am. (The only exception will be on occasional 4th Sundays when we visit Barnwell Baptist or St Vincent de Paul Roman Catholic Churches for United Services.)

Our pattern of worship will be as follows:

- 1st Sunday All-Age Family Worship and Baptism
- 2nd Sunday Methodist Holy Communion and Kids Club
- 3rd Sunday Anglican Holy Communion and Kids Club
- 4th Sunday United Worship and Kids Club
- 5th Sunday Morning Worship and Kids Club



As you can see, worship will alternate between Methodist and Church of England styles. You will still be able to ask for a Church of England Baptism, Wedding or Funeral - as indeed a Methodist Baptism, Wedding or Funeral. We will review these arrangements in January, and, if we feel it is still right to go ahead together, we will then begin to discuss our long-term commitment and the redevelopment of one of our buildings as a permanent place to worship together.

Welcome to Peter Clark who will be Assistant Pastor of Barnwell Baptist Church for the next nine months. We hope you have a great time with us in East Barnwell. Peter can be contacted on 07941461849. Welcome too to **Ank Rigelsford** who is the new Assistant Vicar of Holy Cross. You can contact Ank on 368150.

Christmas Events and Services at Barnwell Baptist Church:

- Sat Nov 2nd 10am - 11.30am **Autumn Fair** in aid of Golden years
- Fri Nov 29th 6.30pm **Christmas Fair** with *Father Christmas' Winter Wonderland* at 6.45pm
- Sunday Dec 15th Carol Service at 4pm

at Meadowlands Methodist Church

Sunday 15th December **Christingle Parade Service**, 10.30am

at the Leper Chapel:

Sunday Dec 22nd at 6.30pm **Carol Service** with Cottenham Brass Band
Christmas Eve, 11.30pm **Midnight Communion**

at Holy Cross

Saturday Nov 30th at 6pm **St Nicholas' Feast** With Santa, food, entertainment and raffles!

Christmas Day 10.30am **United Christmas Family Communion Service**

Deadline for articles for the next edition.

If you want to write an article or share a thought with residents of the Abbey Ward you should submit it by the 1st February for publication in March.

Cambridge Sustainable City

NEWSLETTER 13 • JUNE 2000



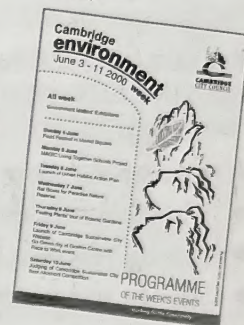
Environment Week 2000

Now in its tenth year, Cambridge Environment Week 2000 is launched by the Mayor, Cllr Evelyn Knowles, on Sunday 4 June at the Food Festival in the Market Square at 12 noon with live music, street theatre, a craft market and the regular weekly farmers market plus stalls by community groups.

An exciting programme of events follows with Go Green day at the Grafton Centre (starting with a Race to Work during the rush hour), a Water Vole survey of Bin Brook and the launch of both the Sustainable City Website and the Urban Biodiversity Action Plans. Sustainable City's Best Allotment Competition will be judged by TV gardener Gay Search and walks,

talks, competitions and exhibitions continue all week.

For further details or your own programme of events, contact Sue Woodsford on 01223 457046.



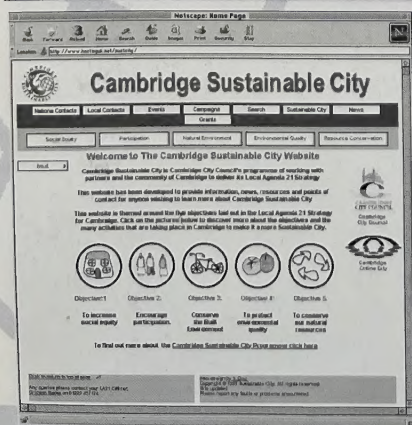
Cambridge Allotments 2000

Gardeners of all ages are joining forces to promote the city's allotments for the Cambridge Allotments 2000 campaign, courtesy of a grant from Cambridge Sustainable City. The campaign was launched on April 20 with the aim of increasing take-up of the city's allotment plots from 1700 to 2000 to celebrate the year 2000.

Leaflets on how to get a plot and what the benefits are of keeping one went out in the free weekly paper at the beginning of May and stalls at the regular Farmers Market and summer fairs will promote allotments. Cambridge Sustainable City Best Allotment Competition will be judged by Gay Search of TV Gardeners' World programme and Mark Williams of Unwins Seeds during Environment Week on 10 June.

Cambridge Allotments Network has set up an information hotline on 01223 501581 and email : info@allotments.net They also produce a weekly email newsletter. To subscribe, visit their website at www.allotments.net.

Dave Fox, Cairo Robb and Keith Jordan show why allotments are good for you



Website for Sustainable City

Cambridge gets its own virtual environment centre when Anne Campbell M.P. launches the Sustainable City Website during Environment Week on Friday 9 June at the Guildhall.

This website will provide information, news, resources and points of contact for anyone wanting to learn more about sustainability in Cambridge. It is built around the five objectives of the Cambridge Local Agenda 21

Strategy and covers a wide range of issues including cycling, wildlife, tourism, allotments, public transport, air pollution, environmental education, waste and recycling. You will be able to access the Sustainable City grants forms online via this website and email your applications.

Even this newsletter is now online. See www.sustainablecity.net

Cambridge Environment Awards 2000

Cambridge City Council's Environment Awards were presented to thirteen groups with good ideas for improving the environment on 19 April at a ceremony in the Guildhall.

This year's Awards, with extra support from TXU Europe, had £5,000 to disburse. The winners were:

- ◆ Playlanders Play Group
- ◆ Trumpington Allotments Society
- ◆ Cambridge Pensioners Fellowship
- ◆ Cambridge Friends of the Earth
- ◆ Envirolink UK
- ◆ Friends of St Laurence's School
- ◆ Friends of Mill Road Cemetery
- ◆ Cambridge Volunteer Centre
- ◆ Tools for Self Reliance (TFSR)
- ◆ The Woodcraft Folk
- ◆ Cambridge City Wildlife Group
- ◆ Milton Road Schools
- ◆ Harambee, the Cambridge Development Education Centre

The judging panel consisted of City Councillors and representatives from Cambridge Friends of the Earth, Youth Action Cambridge, and TXU Europe. The winning projects ranged from equipment to refurbish old tools for projects in Africa, wildlife habitat and grounds improvements, workshops for school children and sharing environmental best practice on the Internet.



Emily Watson of Milton Road Infants collects the Environment Award for her school

Real Nappy Signs for Bin Lorries

Real Nappy Week signs are now brightening up the city's bin lorries courtesy of Cambridge Sustainable City which provided grants to pay for special pictures on the side of waste collection vehicles. These have been designed by Cambridgeshire Real Nappy Network to raise awareness about the benefits of modern cotton nappies to waste reduction to mark Real Nappy Week 15 -22 April.

Disposable nappies make up 4% of household waste which means nearly 8,500 tonnes of extra material, costing over £200,000 a year to landfill. This is a heavy cost to council waste disposal bills and means every disposable nappy kept out of the waste stream is money saved. Using cotton nappies - 'Real Nappies' - is one way to do this.

Matthew Jones, Cambridge City Council's Recycling Officer, said, 'Cotton nappies are now as convenient and easy to use as disposable ones. Use a local nappy laundry service to save money and time and safeguard the environment for our children.'



Suzanne McBride of the Real Nappy Network with daughter Fiona and real nappies, shows off the new signs with Matthew Jones and Mark Skelton, Recycling Officers

Forum Feedback

Open Forum on Enterprise and Sustainability

Over forty people attended the second Sustainable City Forum on Enterprise & Sustainability at Marshall's of Cambridge Aerospace on 11 May. Lively case studies from Jim Hill of Hy Q International and Vanessa Scott of Stratton's Hotel in Swaffham gave evidence of the real action businesses can take to improve their environmental performance. Roger Coey of the City Council and Nick Upton of Business Link outlined the advice on legislation and support companies can rely on locally.

Workshops highlighted the key issues for business as the importance of local service provision as well as continuing concerns over transport and waste reduction. Delegates gave enthusiastic support to ideas for a waste minimisation group and ways to improve cycle provision at company bases.

Detailed feedback will be sent to all those who attended and anyone else who wants it. Contact Graham Magee on 01223 457174.

Action Plan for woods and wildlife



An Action Plan was launched on 19 May to help preserve Cambridgeshire's woodlands and wildlife. The Trees and Woodland Biodiversity Action Plan covers rare and threatened birds like nightingales and spotted flycatchers, butterflies like the white admiral and mammals such as the water vole as well as the areas where they live.

The campaign is being organised by Cambridgeshire's Biodiversity Partnership, made up of the six local councils, RSPB, Landscape 2000, English Nature, the Environment Agency, Anglian Water and the Wildlife Trust. All have committed themselves to protecting the environment in line with the declarations made at the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992.

The initiative will support such things as tree planting, surveys of endangered species, litter picks and clearing overgrown areas as well as keeping a keen eye on development. As well as protecting wildlife, the aim is to stage activities everyone can enjoy.

For more details contact the county's Biodiversity Co-ordinator, Britt Cordi, on 01223 718573.

Biodiversity Challenge



Companies throughout Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are being invited to enter the Biodiversity Challenge competition, which is aimed at helping businesses manage their land for the benefit of wildlife in their grounds or in the community where they operate.

The Cambridgeshire Biodiversity Action Plan, a document setting targets for conserving wildlife in the county, was published in April and this Challenge is one way people and organisations can get involved.

The Challenge is being run by the Wildlife Trust and is funded by Cambridge Sustainable City and Anglian Water. Chris Gerrard from the Wildlife Trust said, "This is a great way to conserve wildlife but also develop staff skills and teamworking, improve the look of company grounds and raise the standing of the company in the local community."

Ten applicants will be chosen to receive a visit from an expert ecologist who will give advice on managing land for wildlife. Two overall winners will then be picked to win the award at a ceremony in Autumn.

The competition is looking for companies that haven't started as well as established projects. For further details, call Chris Gerrard on 01223 712401 or visit the Biodiversity Challenge website at <http://www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/bcnp/biochallenge>

New Mayor promotes Sustainable City!

Councillor Evelyn Knowles was elected Mayor of Cambridge on 18 May and in her inaugural speech said she would be pressing hard to make Cambridge a Sustainable City. Her life long joint interests in the environment and health will be the key themes of her year in office.

At the mayor-making ceremony in the Guildhall, Cllr Knowles said, "I would like to ensure that the city plays a prominent role in addressing issues such as waste minimisation, biodiversity and energy saving and sets an example for others to follow. I'd like to change the culture so that 'On your bike' is no longer a derogatory term." It is clear that our new Mayor is going to be very green indeed.



Lets go green says new Mayor Cllr Evelyn Knowles

Into the City Centre!

Graham Magee, Local Agenda 21 Co-ordinator, has been covering the post of City Centre Manager for the last two months which has given him valuable insight into the work of this initiative as well as contact with city centre retailers and businesses.

The City Centre initiative has the objective of maintaining and enhancing Cambridge's role as a centre for the people of Cambridge and the surrounding area. Through its Executive Group and forum it operates in a similar way to Sustainable City and with City Rangers acting as a public interface provides contact with those who can get street repairs and cleansing done. City Centre management can also take action on fly posting, graffiti and 'A' boards all helping to make Cambridge City Centre a cleaner and safer place.

Graham will be back to Sustainability full time soon after 7 August when the new City Centre Manager starts her job.

If you spot any issues in the city centre that need addressing contact the Rangers on 0411 753 655.

New UN Environment Centre for Cambridge

Flags will be going up in Cambridge on 3 July to celebrate the opening of the first new United Nations institute in UK for 50 years. The World Conservation Monitoring Centre is now the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP's) world biodiversity information and assessment centre.

To mark the occasion, Dr Klaus Toepfer, UNEP Executive Director, Rt Hon Michael Meacher, Minister of the Environment and Rt Hon Peter Hain, Minister of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs, will be joining the distinguished guests at a reception at WCMC's offices in Cambridge on 3 July.

Klaus Toepfer as Head of Agenda 21 will also be meeting the Mayor, Cllr Evelyn Knowles, and Rob Hammond, Chief Executive of Cambridge City Council, and displays from the event will be exhibited in the Guildhall for the week beginning 10 July.

WCMC provides information services on conservation and sustainable uses of species and ecosystems. The principle beneficiaries of this new partnership will be WCMC users throughout the world who will gain improved access to rich collections of biodiversity information. As part of UNEP, WCMC will participate in Earthwatch, which provides a focus for information on environmental problems and in GRID, the Global Resource Information Database with offices in ten countries.



Beneficiary - endangered tiger

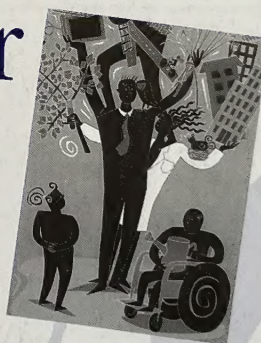
Working Together for our Future

Cambridgeshire's phenomenal success looks set to continue – but over the last few years, 3,350 new homes have been built each year and this trend too looks set to continue. The tremendous challenge facing the County is how to manage sensitively the growth of people, jobs and housing without detriment to the very special landscape and heritage of the County.

Cambridgeshire's Local Agenda 21 Round Table is a partnership actively promoting sustainability with public and private members from big business, small business, local authorities, health authorities and others.

The Round Table recently launched its document *Working Together for our Future – Cambridgeshire & Peterborough in the 21st Century* in which it urges organisations to celebrate what they are doing to promote quality of life and explore ways of doing more, either on their own or in partnership with others.

For further information or your own copy of *Working Together for our Future*, contact Allison Kew at Cambridgeshire County Council on 01223 717365.



Going for Green

Going for Green opened its new joint office with Tidy Britain in Norwich in April and are offering environmental support and information from there at 5 Chalk Hill House, 19 Rosary Road, Norwich NR1 1SZ on email: Nigel@tidybritain.org.uk and tel 01603 766559.



Items for September 2000 issue to Sue Woodsford please, Planning Department, The Guildhall, Cambridge CB2 3QJ. Tel (01223) 457046 or E-mail suew@cambridge.gov.uk by 9th August.

Events

10 June

ARBURY CARNIVAL 2000

14 – 17 June

THE MAY BUMPS

21 – 26 June

MIDSUMMER FAIR

Details from 01223 4457521

22 – 25 June

MILLENNIUM FLOWER FESTIVAL

Wesley Church, Christ's Pieces

1 July

WOODCRAFT FOLK 75TH CELEBRATIONS

Music, children's events on Jesus Green

Details from 01223 509178

1 – 29 July

CAMFEST 2000

Performing Arts Festival

Details 01223 359547

3 – 26 July

OPEN AIR SHAKESPEARE

Details 01223 511139

10 & 11 July

FIELDS OF VISION –

PLANTLIFE CONFERENCE

On the future of arable plants

Details 01725 510748

14 July 6 – 10pm

POP IN THE PARK

Free concert on Parker's Piece

Details 01223 457521

15 July

ADHOC BIG DAY OUT

All day free festival on Parker's Piece with fireworks at 10pm

Details 01223 457521

16 July 3 – 7pm

PARTY ON THE PIECE

Free music for under 18s

Details 01223 457521

25 – 28 July 5.30pm daily

CAMBRIDGE TOWN BUMPS

27 – 30 July

CAMBRIDGE FOLK FESTIVAL

1 – 6 August

CORONA MARQUEE CLUB

Comedy on Jesus Green

Booking on 01223 357851